

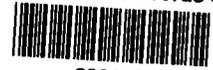


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



226195

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

SE-5J

NOV 08 2000

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
WITH RETURN RECEIPT

Mr. Ronald Rosenblum, Esq.
200 West Madison Street, Suite 1950
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Re: Walkover Survey of Parking Lot at 166 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Rosenblum:

As you may be aware, U.S. EPA is investigating the disposal of radioactive material from the Lindsay Light and Chemical Company (Lindsay Light) thorium mantle manufacturing plant at 316 E. Illinois. Part of this investigation includes conducting radiological surveys of certain properties in the area. Your property is one to which U.S. EPA is seeking access to conduct a radiological survey because of its location. To date, approximately 40,000 tons of thorium-impacted soils have been excavated in the Streeterville area and excavation is still ongoing. We realize that your parking lot is currently in operation and would therefore be willing to conduct the survey during off-peak hours that are convenient for you. We anticipate that a walkover survey would take no more than one to two hours. Enclosed with this letter is a form allowing U.S. EPA access to conduct a walkover radiation survey of your parking lot. Also, enclosed are copies of U.S. EPA's Lindsay Light Fact Sheets which explain the detailed history of Lindsay Light and cleanup activities conducted.

In summary, from 1905 until approximately 1932, Lindsay Light refined thorium containing ores and manufactured incandescent mantles for residential and commercial building lights at 316 E. Illinois. The gas mantle manufacturing involved dipping gauze mantle bags into solutions containing radioactive thorium. This former manufacturing site that is bounded by Columbus, Grand, McClurg Court, and Illinois is known as the Lindsay Light II site. (It is called Lindsay Light II because the original facility and main offices were located at 161 East Grand.) Presently, Kerr-McGee Chemical L.L.C., River East L.L.C. and Grand Pier L.L.C. are completing removal actions at the Lindsay Light II site pursuant to a U.S. EPA administrative order issued under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA" or more commonly known as "Superfund").

U.S. EPA believes it is possible that radioactive materials from the Lindsay Light operations or demolition may have been placed onto your property. Asphalt and concrete effectively shield the gamma radiation from this material, however, if the asphalt and concrete are removed during development activities there may be a potential threat to human health and the environment.

If you have conducted an environmental assessment of the parking lot, provide us with a copy of that environmental assessment, whether or not it includes a radiological assessment. Such data would add to our understanding of the area. We also would be interested in copies of any geotechnical boring information you may have relative to this site.

The enclosed consent for access provides U.S. EPA and its representatives access to your property to conduct radiation surveillance and sampling. Please sign this consent for access and return it to us within seven calendar days of receiving this letter. After seven calendar days, we will assume that you are denying us access. Note that this consent is for access for a radiation walkover and sampling purposes only. If access is required for other purposes, a broader access agreement will be necessary.

Please contact either myself at (312) 886-3601 or Fred Micke, On-Scene Coordinator at (312) 886-5123, if there is additional information we can provide to you. Please direct legal matters to Cathleen Martwick, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-7166.

Sincerely,



Verneta Simon.
On-Scene Coordinator

Enclosures:

1. Fact Sheet dated April 2000
2. Fact Sheet dated May 2000
3. Fact Sheet dated June 2000
4. Consent for Access Form

bcc: Mary Fulghum , C-14J, w/o enclosures
Larry Jensen, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Derrick Kimbrough, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Cathleen Martwick, C-14J, w/o enclosures
Fred Micke, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Linda Nachowicz, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Debbie Regel, SE-5J, w/o enclosures